Abstract of the Disclosure

A system for managing packets incoming to a data router has a local

5   packet memory (LPM) mapped into pre-configured memory units, to store

packets for processing, an external packet memory (EPM), a first storage

system to store packets in the LPM, and a second storage system to store

packets in the EPM. The system is characterized in that the first storage

system attempts to store all incoming packets in the LPM, and for those

10   packets that are not compatible with the LPM, relinquishes control to the

second system, which stores the LPM-incompatible packets in the EPM.